

**Thomas Jefferson to Thomas Mann Randolph, Jr.,  
December 21, 1792, with Copies , from The Works of  
Thomas Jefferson in Twelve Volumes. Federal Edition.  
Collected and Edited by Paul Leicester Ford.**

**TO THOMAS MANN RANDOLPH J. MSS.**

Philadelphia Dec. 21, 1792.

Dear Sir, —We have as yet no direct information from France of the retreat of the D. of Brunswick. However so many circumstances are stated in the English papers as to leave no doubt of the fact.—Wheat is fallen from 125 to 112 cents. This has been effected by the bank here, which refused to merchants purchasing wheat here the aids it has been in the habit of furnishing. Merchants no longer getting their bills discounted at the bank, have been obliged to draw bills of exchange & also to sell their stock to make their purchases of wheat, the consequence has been that exchange stock & wheat have fallen. However the demand will continue to be great.—Will you be so good as to ask of Smith George a list of the tools of which he has need to enable him to do good work in every way in which he can work. I shall be glad to get them while here.—You have heard of the proposed tax on horses. It is uncertain what will be it's fate. Besides it's partiality, it is infinitely objectionable as foisting in a *direct* tax under the name of an indirect one.—A bankrupt bill is brought in in such a form as to render almost all the land holders South of this state liable to be declared bankrupts. It assumes a right of seizing & selling lands. Hitherto we had imagined the general government could not meddle with the title to lands.—My love to my dear Martha & am Dear Sir, Your's affectionately.